THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) Ministry has received a proposal for setting up of an International Institute of Ayurvedic Medical Sciences, Thiruvananthapuram. The proposal *inter-alia* included provisions for a 500 bedded Ayurveda Hospital, Training Centre, R&D Centre, Conservation and Gene Bank, Extension Activities, Digital Library, Documentation Centre and Museum, etc. with an estimated cost of Rs. 101.60 crore.

There is no scheme under which the proposal could be sanctioned. The proposal, therefore, has not been agreed to.

Sharing actionable intelligence in tackling crimes

*157. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had taken a decision to institutionalise the sharing of actionable intelligence in crime-prone States for tackling crimes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had taken a decision to deploy additional railway police on the basis of reports of crime and interaction with the State Government police; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The crime on Railways including attacks by extremist elements need to be tackled with combined efforts of the State Police, intelligence agencies and the Railway administration. So, the need for sharing "actionable" intelligence has been emphasized in high-level co-ordination meetings. Now intelligence agencies have started sharing "actionable" intelligence with Railways also. To have effective control of crime on the Railways, decision has already been taken to institutionalise co-ordination and sharing of intelligence.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The decision to deploy additional Railway Police (which is a wing of the State Police) on the basis of reports of crime and interaction lies with the State Governments. According to the procedure

laid down, the State Police are required to submit their proposal for augmentation of Government Railway Police after getting approved by the respective State Government and submit to the Zonal Railway General Managers concerned for their approval, after obtaining concurrence of the Associate Finance. Thereafter, the Ministry of Railways examines the proposal for final approval. The Ministry of Railways have not received any such proposals.

Absorption of retrenched steam locomotive workers

*158. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5000 retrenched steam locomotive workers will be absorbed by the Railway Ministry after ten years;

(b) if so, the details of programme of their absorption; and

(c) how will their services be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (c) No steam locomotive regular worker has been retrenched by the Ministry of Railways. With the era of steam traction coming to an end on the Indian Railways, the steam locomotive workers have been re-deployed on the Indian Railways system. However, there were numerous contract labours who were engaged in coal and ash handling activities related to steam traction. These activities are no more there and therefore the contracts have been closed.

The issue of absorption/regularization of contract labours including those engaged in coal and ash handling have repeatedly been considered by the Hon'ble Courts and the Government.

Based on the various judicial pronouncements and decisions of the Government, it has been decided that such contract labours may be absorbed on the Railways subject to the following:

(i) Need for recruitment for example men/labour in the Railways preferably in the job in which he was working.

(ii) The genuineness and authenticity of each and every claimant for regularization is to be established.

(iii) The contract labour is medically fit as per the recruitment rules.